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October 16, 2014

Present: Ron Mikol, Harold Simmons, Dana Metzler, Kevin Welch, Pam Crocker, Christine Muir

The meeting opened at 7 p.m.

Prior Meeting Minutes

There were no previous meeting minutes to review.

Highway Salt Shed

Three proposals were submitted for constructing the highway's new salt shed. The one that was selected came in at \$199,840 and can be installed on the highway garage site by this winter (6-8 weeks out). The new shed cannot be installed on the site of the current shed, on Groton Street, because the current shed is still there. The highway garage site doesn't need much work in order to put the new shed there. The highway department can use funds previously allocated for the shed to complete the site work. They are also responsible for providing the asphalt for the shed floor.

Conservation has given highway a three year permit to put the shed on the garage site; in three years, Conservation will review the site for impact to wildlife and the habitat to see if additional environmental protections are needed. The most likely impact would be related to stormwater run-off and the highway commissioners think it is very unlikely that further actions would be needed. The interior floor of the shed is paved so there is little risk of run-off.

The Advisory board proposes paying for the new shed with a six year statehouse note that would cost approximately \$34,000 each year. The current note for the GDRSD technology package ends in FY16; those funds, which are nearly the same in annual amounts, would then be available for the salt shed note.

We voted unanimously to support funding the new salt shed.

New Business

Proposals have also been obtained for the engineering work to reconstruct the section of Main Street Main Street across from Westford Street from the former Hardman's property westerly to the Tully property approximately 1200 feet. Three proposals were submitted and the selection team, which consisted of Madonna McKenzie, Mike Martin of Highway and Town Engineer Jeff Ryder, unanimously selected the final choice. The bid is approximately \$205,000 and includes engineering, drawings for two options, collaboration with Cemetery, Conservation and Historic Committees, and a spec that can be used to take project to bid and apply for state reimbursement. The company can begin immediately.

The Advisory Board voted unanimously to support funding this engineering project.

The two highway projects – salt shed and Main Street – will add approximately \$73,000 to the annual operating budget, based on a 6-year (72-month) statehouse note.

In other new business, Kevin noted that he looked up whether affordable housing money had been used to purchase the Best triangle. Since those funds were not used, Kevin does not support the project to put community housing on that property.

Madonna informed the board that some asbestos was found in the property at 160 Pleasant Street, in the tile and glue. It does not seem to be a large amount of asbestos so the cost of demolishing the property is not expected to rise significantly.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.